



CANTON:

THURSDAY, : : : MARCH 7, : : : 1850

The Southern State's Rights Association for Madison County, is requested to meet at the Court House in Canton, on Monday the 18 inst. to take into consideration the recent action of the Legislature, on the subject of the convention proposed to be held at Nashville Tenn. in June next.

Citizens of the County are respectfully requested to attend without distinction of party.

Canton March 6, 1850.

JOSEPH J. PUGH, Pres.
GEO. CALHOUN, Vice
DAVID M. FULTON, Pres.

On request, we publish the proceedings of a Whig meeting, held in this place on Monday last. Fifteen or twenty persons participated in the meeting. Its object will be seen in the resolutions. We differ with our Whig friends, of whom it was composed, in the necessity of holding meetings for the objects named, or the propriety of holding party meetings at all, on matters connected with this subject, as do also, we presume, a large majority of the same party. We think no party names, or party feelings should be connected with the subject of slavery. Such meetings however, harmless, or proper in themselves, will be misunderstood, they will encourage our political enemies, with the hope that there is dissension among us on the slave question. We cannot be too cautious in smothering such an impression. Both parties at the South have certainly a common end in view, and nothing is to be gained by quarrelling over slight discrepancies. Our only hope is in convincing the free states that our union South is perfect and that we will suffer no encroachment.

We noticed that one of the speakers continually called the late Southern meeting at Jackson, a democratic meeting. This was unworthy of the speaker, for whom we entertain all respect, and we have no doubt that on a little reflection, he would discard this attempt to create party feeling against the action of that meeting. That meeting was called as a Southern meeting, not as a democratic meeting. As such it was attended by members of both parties. Some of the most distinguished Whigs in the state participated in its proceedings. The committee which reported its resolutions was composed of an equal number of both parties. To call it a democratic meeting, is to produce a false impression. Persons abroad would suppose that it was called as a democratic meeting, and held as such. A majority of the meeting may have been democratic, even a very large majority but this did not change its character. We presume however, that the speaker was not aware of the true state of the case, or if he was, we regard it, as one of those inadvertencies engendered by the remains of party prejudice, which common interests, and a common cause will put an end to.

We call attention to the advertisement of W. C. Hall, the Photographical Artist. From the specimens of his work to be seen at the entrance to his room, near Priestly & Mosby's, and also from our knowledge of several life-like portraits taken by him, during his sojourn in our village, we cheerfully recommend him to the patronage of the public. All who desire Daguerreotype likenesses of themselves or families, would do well to call.

We publish this week, the Bill providing for a Rail Road from this place to Jackson, and will continue to publish it for four weeks, as prescribed by said Bill. As there will in all probability, be a variety of opinions in reference to the mode of raising stock, and the propriety of the county authorizing the issuance of Bonds, we now state in advance that our columns will be thrown open to all, both advocates and opponents of the Bill. Those in favor of the measure and those opposed to it, shall receive impartiality from our hands, and we cheerfully invite them to avail themselves of our columns. Come and let us reason together.

It will be seen that a call has been made by the President of the Southern States' Rights Association, for a meeting of the people of this county, on Monday 18th inst. at Canton. The object of the call is to take into consideration the action taken by the Legislature in reference to the Nashville Convention. Members of the Association are not alone invited, but the people of the whole County are requested to attend, without distinction of party. This Association is composed of men of both parties, having an equal number of Whig and Democratic officers. Its object is to bury party feelings and party attachments, and to produce unity of purpose and concert of action on the slavery question.

Our Legislature has determined that the delegates to the Nashville Convention shall be elected by the people. It is time that the people of this District should be thinking about holding their District Convention to nominate delegates for this district. We hope there will be a large attendance of the people of this county here on Monday 18th inst. The important and weighty matters to be presented to their consideration, will doubtless bring out our plans and citizens generally in full force, who will leave behind them their party prejudices and party ties, we doubt not when coming up to so grave question.

On our first page will be found a most interesting tale from real life entitled "GENERAL MOSELEY BAKER or the Reformer of Texas."

There are many persons in this county from Alabama, who were personally acquainted with the Hero of the story, cognizant of the unfortunate transaction of his early life that compelled him to flee as a criminal from that State.

After the settlement of his difficulty with the Bank and his highly honorable conduct in the matter, atoning as it did to some extent, for his former criminal conduct, he was assured that no legal proceedings would be instituted against him should he wish to return to Alabama. In the summer of 45 he did return after an absence of thirteen years, on a visit to his father-in-law Col. Pickett in Autauga county of that state, where we had the pleasure of meeting with this remarkable personage. He seemed to be a very pious man and before retiring for the night, he offered up a fervent and eloquent prayer to the Throne of grace, but we did not think him the religious enthusiast described in the Tale.

A BILL.

A Bill to be entitled an act to amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the Canton and Jackson Rail Road Company approved, February the 1st, 1841, and passed February 7th 1848.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, That the Board of Police of the County of Madison be, and they are hereby authorized and required to subscribe for capital stock in the Canton and Jackson Rail Road Company, to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, for and on account of the county of Madison, and for the payment thereof, they will issue one hundred bonds of one thousand dollars each, payable to the President, Directors, and Company, of the Canton and Jackson Rail Road, or bearer, redeemable in twenty years or sooner, at the option of the obligors, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum payable annually, and to deliver the same to the commissioners appointed for the taking of stock at Canton.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said Board of Police shall levy a special tax on said county, for the payment of the annual interest on said bonds, which shall yield the net sum of six thousand dollars per annum, to be collected in the same manner that other taxes are now collected in said county.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That the dividends accruing on said stock so subscribed, shall be appropriated to the payment of the annual interest accruing on and the redemption of said bonds, and that after said bonds shall have been all redeemed, the said dividends shall be paid into the County Treasury and form a part of the revenue of said county.

Sec. 4. Be further enacted, That the Bonds to be assigned under the first section of this act, shall be to the following form and effect. Know all men by these presents, that the county of Madison in the State of Mississippi is justly indebted to the President, directors and company of the Canton and Jackson Rail Road or bearer, in the sum of one thousand dollars payable twenty years after the date hereof, or sooner, at the option of said county bearing interest from the date, at the rate of six per cent per annum payable annually, for the payment of which debt and interest, the revenue of said county is hereby pledged in witness whereof, &c, which said bond shall be

signed and sealed by the President of the Board of Police of said county, and countersigned by the Clerk of said Board with the seal of the county attached.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, that said President, directors and Company, may sell said Bonds or any part of them, provided they can be sold at par, and invest the proceeds thereof in the construction of said road.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That the county of Madison shall be entitled to three members of the Board of Directors of said corporation, who shall be appointed by the Board of Police of said county.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That the question of subscription of stock by the county of Madison in said Rail Road, be submitted to the people of said county at an election to be held on the second Monday of April 1850, when if it shall appear that a majority of the number of votes cast for the several candidates for Governor of this State at the November election eighteen hundred and forty nine, are in favor of said subscription; then the said Board are required to subscribe the same as hereinafter provided, unless a majority of the number of votes so cast as aforesaid for Governor shall be in favor of said subscription—provided always that said Board of Police shall not subscribe for said stock, nor issue said Bonds until the sum of at least one hundred thousand dollars shall have been subscribed for stock in said Rail Road by individual or company stockholders.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That said Board of Police shall appoint ten or more persons for each precinct in said county to conduct said election, whose duty it shall be to ask each voter whether he is for or against the subscription of said stock, and record and return the same to the clerk of the Probate court of said county, to be by him reported to the said Board, provided that none but qualified voters for members of the Legislature shall be entitled to vote.

Sec. 9. Be it further enacted, That the Board of Police of said county be authorized, and they are hereby required to subscribe the full amount of the three per cent fund and all interest thereon, now in the hands of said Board, or may hereafter come into their hands as additional county stock in said Road, and that the dividend on the same shall be appropriated by said Board as other dividends arising under this act.

Sec. 10. Be it further enacted, That it shall not be the duty of the Board of Police of said county, to subscribe said three per cent fund, as stock in said Rail Road, until after the citizens of said county have consented to the subscription of stock as provided for in the seventh section of this act, nor until after the sum of at least one hundred thousand dollars shall have been subscribed for stock in said Rail Road by individual or company stockholders.

Sec. 11. Be it further enacted, That the time of holding said election shall be advertised for at least four weeks consecutively, preceding said election in the Newspapers printed in the town of Canton, and by notices posted up at five of the most public places in said county.

Sec. 12. Be it further enacted, That this act shall go into operation and be of full force and effect from and after its passage.

Passed the Senate 26th Feb. 1850.
J. A. ORR, Sec'y.
Passed H. of Rep's March 2, 1850.
E. P. RUSSELL, Clerk

Persuant to a call made upon the friends of the Union and administration a respectable portion of the citizens of Madison County assembled for the purpose of considering of the California question in its new phase and responding to a letter received from our Congressional delegation on this subject.

Mr. John Montgomery was called to the chair and R. H. Winter appointed secretary.

L. M. Garrett Esq. explained the object of the meeting, and moved that a committee of seven be appointed to draft suitable resolutions, whereupon L. M. Garrett, Wm. Britton, R. Love, H. Lewis, Eli T. Montgomery, C. C. Shackelford and A. J. Montgomery, were appointed said committee.

After retiring for a time the Committee returned and reported the following preamble and resolutions all of which were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, our Senators and Representatives in Congress have by a letter, dated Jan. 21 1850, addressed to Gov. Quitman, stated that it is their well defined opinion that California will be admitted as a state of this Union the present session of Congress "with her constitutional prohibition of slavery", and have asked for such an expression of opinion by the people of this State as shall clearly indicate the course which Mississippi shall deem it her duty to pursue in this new emergency and whereas we, a portion of the people of the State of Mississippi, have assembled to consider of, and express our opinions upon, this subject:

1st. Resolved, Therefore, that it is

our ardent desire that California, when she shall be admitted into the Union as a State, shall come in as a slave-holding State. Yet if the citizens of California, sufficient in number to entitle them to do so, have formed a constitution and State Government for themselves in accordance with the constitution of the United States, without any fraud, improper or undue influence in the act and manner of its formation—of which the Congress of the United States is the judge:—we, as a patriotic and law-abiding people, loving the South and the Union, however deeply we may regret the exclusion of our slave property from soil purchased with our common blood and treasure, will acquiesce in the right of the citizens of that country, as American freemen, to form their own constitution as they desire.

2nd. Resolved, That we are not sufficiently informed in regard to the particular facts attending the formation of the constitution presented by California to give any positive opinion in relation to the question of the admission, on other grounds than "her constitutional prohibition of slavery".

3rd. Resolved, That we can see no good reason to oppose the admission of California as a state, in accordance with the requirements of the constitution of the United States and the usages of the government in similar cases on the ground mainly that her constitution prohibits African slavery; and that to oppose it on this ground would be to recognize the power in Congress to pass the "Wilmot Provision"—a power which we emphatically deny.

4th. Resolved, That "from the lights now before us", we cannot consider the admission of California as a State, with a constitution fairly formed by her citizens, as "the Wilmot Provision in another form" although slavery may be excluded by the provisions of said constitution.

5th. Resolved, That, upon the information we now have, we cannot agree in opinion with our respected Governor, John A. Quitman, that the present administration despatched to California a special agent "with instructions to urge the floating population" of that territory to form a constitution and claim admission into the Union as sovereign State. Nor can we agree with him in the opinion, "that her hasty admission is now demanded for no other purpose than to exclude slavery from her limits."

6th. Resolved, That we have seen no just cause of censure against the present administration of the United States Government for the part and present condition of California. But we do most unequivocally censure Congress for its failure and neglect to provide a territorial government for California.

7th. Resolved, That we have unabated confidence in the patriotism, integrity, firmness, and fidelity to the South, of our respected and distinguished President Zachary Taylor; and that his conduct, heretofore, in the greatest and most critical emergencies, forbids that we should doubt his capacity and willingness to act for the best interest of his country in any "new emergency" that may arise.

It was moved and carried that the papers of Jackson and Canton be requested to publish said proceedings.

JOHN MONTGOMERY, Pres.
R. H. WINTER, Sec.

Messrs. BERRIEN AND HILLARD.

We have watched with considerable interest the course of these distinguished southern Whigs. Enjoying the confidence of their party South, to a greater degree than any other men in Congress, from their commanding talents, and well known deliberation, sagacity and long service in the councils of the nation, we have looked for a demonstration from them as indicative of the probable course which would be taken by the mass of the southern Whigs on the California question.

They have both spoken; and their speeches judging from the imperfect report of the telegraph, are worthy of sons and representatives of the South, at this momentous crisis in her destiny.

We are not able to publish the report of the speech of Mr. Berrien. But suffice it to say, that it is truly southern in its tone and sentiments. His heart has always been with the South; and he has come forward now as he did at the last session of Congress, to lend the influence of his great name and to exert his mighty powers in rolling back the dark waters of abolitionism which threaten to sweep over her.

Mr. Hillard, with Mr. Berrien, was a warm supporter of Gen. Taylor, and his course will not be attributed to any feeling of opposition to him. As a southern man, he has always exhibited the most conciliatory spirit. Indeed, if we mistake not, he was opposed for Congress by a Whig who held more ultra views on the slavery question. He spoke on the 14th inst. The following brief paragraph shows the nature of his remarks:

In committee of the whole Mr. Hillard spoke against the admission of California. He said he, for one, would never consent to her admission without a full acknowledgment of the south there. He was in favor of entire and full settlement of the question of slavery forever, with nothing else would the south be satisfied. By way of compromise Mr. H. concluded by making a resolution instructing the committee

on territories to bring in a bill for the protection of the citizens of the United States in their property, of every description in the territory acquired from Mexico by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Mr. Badger of North Carolina, another distinguished Whig has also declared his intention to oppose the admission of California. Nor does any one doubt his colleague Mr. Mangum, will stand with Clingman and the rest of his true hearted Whig brethren who are not such base slaves of party as to wear its trammels. The Adams and Yerger Whigs who assembled in Jackson will find themselves cut off from the great body of the South; and many of them will find to their regret that they have taken their positions prematurely.

OBITUARY.

Died in Canton on 20 inst. Mrs. Martha Brown, relict of John Brown dec. after a painful and protracted illness of ten weeks. The subject of this notice was a woman of plain, unpretending and unobtrusive manners, but nevertheless she possessed a decided and strongly marked character.

She was universally regarded as a kind neighbor and most devoted friend. Whilst she was kind and friendly to all with whom she was brought in contact, the humble, the friendless, and necessitous seemed to be the especial objects of her attentions. She felt it her duty to search out the abodes of the lowly and obscure and minister to their wants. With her, charity was a mainspring of action,—a settled principle to do all the good in her power in the most quiet and unostentatious manner and "not to be seen of men." of her it might be most truthfully said

None knew her but to love her
None named her but to praise.

For thirty years she had been a consistent member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. In her last illness she frequently spoke of her approaching dissolution, and always with calmness and resignation. Death had for her no terrors, as she could look back without regret upon a life spent in a conscientious discharge of its duties, and in making preparations for another and better state of existence.

She left behind her three young daughters to mourn their irreparable loss, who will feel keenly the aching void, death has made in their domestic circle.

God help and shield the motherless,
The stricken, bleeding dove,
For whom there gushes no loud fount
Of deep and deathless love!
The saddest titles grief confers—
For who so lone as they,
Upon whose path a mother's love
Sheds not its holy ray?

A blessing on the motherless,
Where'er they dwell on earth,
Within the home of childhood,
Or at the stranger's hearth!
Blue be the sky above their heads,
And bright the sun within;
Oh! God protect the motherless,
And keep them free from sin!

[For the Madisonian.]
EDUCATION No 2.

But, in promotion of this cause, steam and electricity will never be in requisition. There is but the one road to knowledge, steep and rugged, to which these powerful agents of "human progress" can ever be applied. Patience and toil are the only means of its attainment. The search after a substitute for these is more fruitless than the search for the philosopher's stone. Even in long, severe and well directed application of the best mind, slow and wearisome is its advancement,—small and unsatisfactory is the gain. If this is true of the adult with discretion and reason at his command, and ambition as a stimulus, in his eager pursuit it is not less true of the child, whose chief mental faculty employed is the memory. So few and simple are the subjects that are adapted to his understanding, that the only danger is in the too anxious instructor's assigning him tasks that are too great. They can scarcely be so small.

The expansion of his mind being gradual and slow his advancement must necessarily be slow. The utmost skill and judgment, on the part of the tutor, are requisite, in properly suiting the quality of his lessons to his age and capacity.—To task and puzzle the young mind with a subject that it cannot comprehend—is an attempt to pervert nature—and result not only in no benefit, but in an essential injury, more or less serious according as it is practiced to a greater or less extent. How often are the "judicious" made to "grieve, to see a devoted parent reproachfully regarding his playful child as absolutely losing every moment that is not employed in the use of a book—demanding of the teacher to assign lessons that will occupy all his time.—Inasmuch as he is paid "high wages," his pupils must be kept busy in proportion.—Our anxiety for more rapid progress than, from the nature of things, is possible, obviously leads to the most serious evils connected with the profession. Knowing that much is expected the teacher must contrive, by some means, to meet the wishes of his patrons, or his ruin will be the consequence.—Hence, what his pupils cannot learn they must appear to know what is beyond their comprehension they must seem to understand. Some

have begun Arithmetic—Latin or Chemistry.—They are expected, at the examination, to show themselves veterans on all these subjects.—Should any question however abstruse, be proposed relative to these branches, it would be death to fail in furnishing a ready and accurate reply.—The labor of a life time must be performed by a child, in one session.

They have also begun to practice composition. No specimen appears in public that would not do honor to the first writers of the age.—A selection from works inferior to those of Macaulay would be rejected with scorn.

The greatest evil of such a course is not its fraud. Few are deceived; and the knowing connive at it, as an innocent and pardonable ostentation.—But it is the pernicious practice of learning like a parrot, words without a meaning, of skimming over the surface of things, whose substance remains a mystery, of the ideas gained are so confused and perplexed as to render the whole subject dreaded and hated over afterward.

If there is an Herculean labor connected with teaching it is to induce one to acquire a thorough knowledge of a subject that has been thus treated.—The attempt will rarely succeed.

To such habits alone it to be ascribed the distaste that persons have to certain branches of learning. There are none that, if properly adapted to the capacity of the learner with suitable illustrations, are not calculated to engage and delight the mind.

Hence the importance of advancing the young idea slowly and surely—of assigning studies with strict regard to the age and capacity of the student. All must be patient though we cannot discover an advance from hour to hour or from day to day—we cannot do this in a child's corporeal growth—yet if not retarded by injudicious treatment, it is advancing gradually onward to "the stature of a perfect man." As it would be absurd to expect, by administering an excess of food to promote his physical stature, so it would be to expect, by cramming the mind, to promote his mental advancement.—The tendency of one would be to make a corporeal dwarf of the other, an intellectual one.

It should be the duty of the preceptor to assign the proper means and suitable hours of recreation—and these, with young pupils, should far exceed the hours of study—and in these exercises they should not feel as if they were transgressing, but acting in accordance with the laws of the school, the laws of nature and laws of God.

In the exaction of recitations he must be uniform firm and uncompromising, giving out to his class such task as in his judgement they are respectively able to perform. In every instance, perfect recitation.—There should be no grades of merit in his class—book, as bad, imperfect, excellent &c, as is sometimes practiced.—This habits of punctuality and accuracy, which are no minor considerations in the duties of mental training, will be practically inculcated.

The means of coercion, in refractory cases, as my allotted space for the present number is filled, may form the subject of a future remark.

PEDAGOGUS.

THE WORLD WAS MADE FOR ALL.—In looking at our age, I am struck immediately with one commanding characteristic; and that is, the tendency of all its movements to expansion, to diffusion, to universality. To this I ask your attention. This tendency is directly opposed to the spirit of exclusiveness, restriction, narrowness, monopoly, which has prevailed in past ages. Human action is now freer more unconfined. All goodness, advantages, helps, are open to all. The privileged, petted individual is becoming less, and the human race are becoming more. The multitude is rising the dust.—Once we heard of the few, now of the many; once of the prerogatives of a part, now the rights of all. We are looking, as never before, through the disguises, and envelopments of ranks and classes, to the common nature which is below them; and are beginning to learn that every being who partakes of it has noble powers to cultivate, solemn duties to perform inalienable rights to assert, to endeavor to accomplish. The grand idea of humanity, of the importance of man, is spreading silently, but surely. Now that the worth of the human being is at all understood as it should be, but the truth is glimmering through the darkness. A faint consciousness of it has seized on the public mind. Even the most abject portions of society are visited by some dreams of a better condition, for which they were designed.—The grand doctrine that every human being should have the means of self-culture, of progress in knowledge and virtue, of health, comfort and happiness, of exercising the powers and affections of a man—this is slowly taken its place as the highest social truth. That the world was made for all; that no human being shall perish but through his own fault; that the great end of government is to spread a shield over the rights of all—these propositions are growing into axioms, and the spirit of them is coming forth in all the departments of life.—Dr. Channing.